



1714

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Jon L Howell et al

CASE NO.: CH2782 US NA

SERIAL NO.: 09/901,975

GROUP ART UNIT: 1714

FILED: 07/10/2001

EXAMINER: Cephia Toomer

FOR: Thermally Stable Perfluoropolyethers and
Processes Therefor and Therewith

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the 08/20/2003 Office Action, applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

Amendment to claims begins at page 2. The amendment cancels 25 claims (including one independent claim) and adds 21 new claims (including one independent claim). As such there is no additional fee required.

Remarks begin at page 5.

Accompanying this response are Rule 132 declarations by inventor Jon Howell, inventor/professor Joseph Thrasher of the University of Alabama, and Professor Darryl DesMarteau of Clemson University.

Also accompanying this response are those patents cited in the references (Caporiccio and Moggi) relied on by the examiner and purported to show perfluoropolyethers having end groups of 3 carbon atoms.

These Rule 132 declarations and patents cited in the references show that the references relied on by the examiner are incorrect, speculative, and not fact-based.